

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 18231 261704Z

70

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 261634Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1170

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 18231

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB

SUBJECT: NEW KHMER CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN PARIS

REF: A) PHNOM PENH 9368; B) STATE 156675

1. IMPRESSION OF KENG VANNSAK WE HAVE GAINED FROM BRIEF ACQUAINTANCE AND FROM HIS REPUTATION AMONG KHMER AND FRENCH HERE SUPPORTS DEPARTMENT'S VIEW (PARA 4, REF B) THAT KENG VANNSAK WOULD NOT BE THE DIPLOMAT BEST SUITED TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH FRANCE. HE IS WELL KNOWN FOR "HARD LINE" OPPOSING NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMMUNISTS AND FAVORING "FIGHT TO FINAL VICTORY". ON THE OTHER HAND, HE WOULD PROBABLY BE MORE ACTIVE THAN THE CURRENT CHARGE.

2. WE AGREE WITH PHNOM PENH THAT IT SHOULD BE PRIMARILY KHMER DECISION (PARA 3, REF A). FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF PARIS, AN ACTIVE US ROLE IN THE SELECTION OF THE NEW CHARGE COULD LEAD THE GOF TO CONSIDER HIM AN AMERICAN PROTEGE AND THE GKR TO HOLD THE US RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSURING HIS FAVORABLE RECEPTION IN FRANCE.
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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